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**T**hank you for attending the Bird Flu Responders meeting in September 2006. We value your participation and input, and hope you gained a good understanding of our capabilities and resources.

In order to maintain communication and highlight relevant activities related to avian influenza preparedness, surveillance, and response, we would like to introduce the first issue of this semi-annual newsletter.

#### Content

- Global situation summary
- Current Activities
- On-going Activities
- Future Activities
- Dead Bird Reporting

#### Office of the County Veterinarian Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory

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858-694-2838  
[sdcountyvet.org](http://sdcountyvet.org)

#### Dead Bird Reporting and Bird Flu Information Hotline

888-551-INFO (4636)



*Office of the County Veterinarian, Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory*

## Current Situation

- Since January 2007, 15 countries have reported outbreaks of H5N1 in poultry
- Human cases continue to rise, to date 169 confirmed deaths, 280 confirmed infections (WHO)
- No cases of H5N1 in animals or humans in the Americas
- Three proposed modes of introduction to unaffected regions:
  1. Migratory wildfowl
  2. Trade in poultry and products
  3. Wild bird trade

## Completed Activities

ADDL has been involved in several multi-agency campaigns including biosecurity response exercises, discussions on illegal trade and border security, and vaccination against seasonal flu in poultry industry workers.

Biosecurity field kits have been purchased and assembled in order to contain disease and sanitize affected areas in the event of an outbreak.

## Dead Bird Reporting

ADDL is currently testing select bird species for avian influenza including poultry, waterfowl, and shorebirds. If you observe abnormally increased deaths in these species, please contact us at **1-888-551-INFO (4636)** or fill out the Dead Bird Reporting Form at [sdbirdflu.com](http://sdbirdflu.com).

Birds for testing must be dead less than 24 hours and in good condition.

**Do NOT** touch dead birds unless necessary. If it is necessary to move them, wear gloves and protective eyewear, double bag the birds, and wash hands immediately with soap and water.

Please refer to the bird flu link at [sdbirdflu.com](http://sdbirdflu.com) for more information and safety tips.

## On-going Activities

- ADDL continues to test for all types of avian influenza
- 163 birds have been sampled by ADDL this fiscal year
- All submissions have tested negative.
- A risk assessment for San Diego County is being conducted at ADDL in order to focus monitoring efforts.
- Coordination of activities with local, state, and federal organizations, along with public education remain a priority.

## Future Activities

To prepare for avian influenza outbreaks, response teams are being trained to efficiently and safely detect and contain the disease in order to limit its spread and protect public and animal health.



**FLU:Pandemic/Bird  
Plan. Prepare. Protect.**  
County of San Diego